



The WisDOT Connector *Express*

July 3, 2008...Volume 9, Issue 9

Holiday motorists asked to travel safely

If your July 4th Holiday plans include hitting the roadways, expect plenty of company along with numerous road construction zones throughout the state. Most major highways – including Interstates – that were closed during recent flooding are now open, and construction crews are pulling back as many orange barrels as possible to minimize lane restrictions. Peak Holiday travel periods are expected to occur on Thursday (July 3) and again on Sunday (July 6) between noon and 9 p.m. both days. For the latest on highway conditions and incidents, go to the WisDOT Web site (www.dot.wisconsin.gov) and check under “Flood and Incident Alerts” and also under “Road Conditions.”

Wisconsin traffic fatalities down over 25 percent

Wisconsin traffic safety officials are encouraged by a 25% drop in traffic fatalities so far this year. Preliminary data shows 249 motorists lost their lives in Wisconsin traffic crashes over the first six months of this year, 89 fewer than the 338 people who died over the same period last year. Likely factors behind the decline include more motorists slowing down, buckling up and driving sober; statewide law enforcement efforts; and a slight decline in overall travel. Highway safety officials caution that traffic fatalities typically peak during the upcoming summer months of July, August and September.

Consumers should be on the lookout for flood-damaged vehicles

Heavy rains that drenched much of southern Wisconsin last month have officials with the state Division of Motor Vehicles advising consumers to be careful about purchasing a flood-damaged vehicle. Typically, once a claim is settled, an insurance company takes possession of a flood-damaged vehicle and the insurer is required to re-title it as “flood damaged.” Such vehicles are usually sold at a salvage auction either for parts, or to be repaired and put back into service with the “flood damaged” title brand remaining in place. Wisconsin also posts such title brands on the national vehicle titling system to help protect consumers in other states. More information can be found at: www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/vehicles/brands.htm

Use of park and ride lots on the increase

The popularity of park and ride lots is increasing along with the price of gasoline. WisDOT oversees 97 park and ride facilities throughout the state frequently used by car and vanpoolers. All lots are wheel-chair accessible and some provide bicycle parking and connections to passenger rail and public transit services. More information on lot locations and services can be found on the WisDOT Web site at: www.dot.wisconsin.gov/travel/parkride/index.htm.

The WisDOT Connector Express is produced by:

Wisconsin Department of Transportation

Office of Public Affairs, PO Box 7910

Madison, WI 53707-7910

Phone: (608) 266-3581

E-mail: opa.exec@dot.state.wi.us

Web site: www.dot.wisconsin.gov

Back issues available at www.dot.wisconsin.gov/library/publications/format/newsletters/connector.htm